

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



Spring Term (2) 2025 No. 10

We've had a lovely sunny week. There are signs of spring everywhere. There are beans sprouting in Owls class, Wrens and Kingfishers have been weeding our raised beds ready for new crops to be planted and everyone is enjoying being out in the fresh air.

Book Week 2025

What a wonderful week of celebrating reading! Thank you for your support and engagement with all of our book themed events. I'm sure you've been keeping up through our website blog. The feedback from children couldn't be more positive.

Our book week is a whole community event with something for everyone. Ask the children to tell you about their experiences.

- Which book character did they dress up as on Monday?
- Which book character were the adults dressed up as?
- How many book caches did they find?
- Which masked reader kept them guessing?
- What does it mean to cook a book?
- What was their favourite story from hot chocolate and pyjama night?
- How did they choose the book they were going to take home from our Friday book sale? (Perhaps you could read it together.)



Huge thanks to Mrs Ebrey for leading another wonderful week and to our brilliant staff who threw themselves into the planned events to ensure their success. Mrs Ebrey is currently gathering feedback and we'll include a book week round up in our next newsletter.

Collaborating with other schools

When we are showing around prospective parents, they are often surprised to hear us talking in glowing terms about other local schools. That's because in West Berkshire, all schools share the same overall aim. Rather than being in competition, we see ourselves as a community supporting each other for the benefit of all the children in our local area. We try to share training and resources when possible and certainly look to share expertise. For example, we often host visitors from other schools who have been signposted to learn more about our Doves provision here at Aldermaston.

This week, we hosted staff from seven other local schools to complete writing moderation together. It's really good training for teachers to spend time with each other reviewing examples of writing and discussing and benchmarking assessments. We benefit from comparing the different resources schools use and discussing other aspects of teaching. Building networks between schools has never been more important and it's good news that our school is part of such a thriving community of educators.

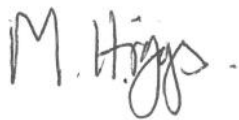


Charitable children

Lovely to see the children raising funds for comic relief today. They've been busy sharing their best jokes with staff in the spirit of 'doing something funny for money'.

Good luck to all the children who will be out and about representing our school next week. We are sending a choir to the Junior Music Festival, several teams to Cross Country Championships and will be enjoying our Easter service led by Robins Class. Please feel free to join us at St Mary's Church on Tuesday morning to join us in this act of worship.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.



Mrs M Higgs
Headteacher



NO NUTS STATEMENT

We have a responsibility to provide a safe learning environment for everyone in our school and we take the management of allergies very seriously.

As our school currently has one or more pupils on roll who suffer from a serious nut allergy, we request that parents and carers **DO NOT** send food to school that contains nuts. This includes:-

- All types of nuts
- Spreads and sandwich fillings containing nuts like peanut butter and Nutella
- Cereal and chocolate bars which contain nuts



School Attendance Reminder

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to express our thanks for your ongoing support in ensuring your child attends school regularly. We recognise that good attendance is crucial for children to maximise their learning potential and build strong foundations for their future.

As outlined in the DfE's guidance, *Working together to improve school attendance*, regular school attendance is a shared responsibility between the school, parents/carers, and pupils. We understand that occasional absences due to illness are unavoidable, and we appreciate you informing the school promptly when your child is unable to attend. Please remember to provide a clear explanation for any absence.

We would also like to gently remind everyone that holidays during term time should be avoided wherever possible, as these absences disrupt your child's education and may result in a penalty notice. Requests for leave of absence should only be made in exceptional circumstances and in accordance with the school's attendance policy.

We are committed to working in partnership with you to support your child's attendance. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, or if your child is experiencing difficulties that are affecting their attendance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help and offer support.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in making every school day count.

Mr Gunn

Senior Attendance Champion

ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY



Did You Know... ?

If Your Child's Attendance During the School Year...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

School News

REMINDERS

ACCESS TO SCHOOL BUILDING

Please note that at all times there should be **NO PARENTS** in the school building without having first signed in through the office and obtained a visitor badge. Thank you.



WALKING ON SCHOOL WALL AT FRONT OF SCHOOL

Please could we remind you **NOT TO ALLOW** your children to walk on the small wall at the front of the school.

NO Smoking or vaping on School Grounds



Our school site is a no smoking zone and we therefore ask all parents to NOT smoke or vape within the school grounds. Thank you.

Car Park

Please be considerate when parking in our school grounds to drop off and collect your child. The spaces on the left hand side of the drive are meant to be used for people who can drop off or pick their child/children up quickly, rather than for those needing to wait for a long time. If you need to wait, please park in the spaces to the right of the main drive or in the spaces in front of the field to the left of the main school building as you come into the entrance gate. Thank you.

Use of Playground Equipment

We would ask that **NO CHILDREN** are allowed to play on the school equipment in and around the playground. These areas are for use by the children during school time only and should **NOT BE USED** by children before school or after school. Our insurance only covers the use of this equipment with supervision by staff, who are trained in the correct use of the play equipment and we would not want any harm to come to the children without the correct supervision. Thank you.

EVENTS THIS TERM

Monday 24th March

7:00pm.....Junior Music Festival—Hexagon

Tuesday 25th March

9:30am.....Easter Service at St Mary's led by Robins

1:00pm.....Cross Country Competition

Wednesday 2nd April

4:30pm to 7:00pm.....Parents evening (not Kingfishers)

3:30pm to 7:00pm.....Parents evening Kingfishers

Thursday 3rd April

3:30pm to 6:00pm.....Parents evening (not Kingfishers)

Friday 4th April

3:25pm.....END OF PUPIL TERM

Wednesday 23rd April

08:55am.....ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May

All week.....KS2 SATS

Friday 23rd May

3:25pm.....END OF PUPIL TERM

Monday 2nd June

08:55am.....ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Friday 20th June

9am to 10:30am.....Family Learning Morning

Tuesday 15th July

9:30am.....End of Year Service at St Mary's led by Kingfishers

Tuesday 22nd July

3:25pm.....END OF PUPIL TERM

Please see our online diary for more dates at:-
<https://aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk/calendar>

TERM DATES 2024

Spring Term 2025

First Day of Term 3	Monday 6th January 2025
Last Day of Term 3	Friday 14th February 2025
Half Term—no school	Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2025
First Day of Term 4	Monday 24th February 2025
Last Day of Term 4	Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

First Day of Term 5	Wednesday 23rd April 2025
Last Day of Term 5	Friday 23rd May 2025
Half Term—no school	Monday 26th to Friday 30th May 2025
First Day of Term 6	Monday 2nd June 2025
Last Day of Term 6	Tuesday 22nd July 2025



CONTACT DETAILS

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